



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/552,734	10/11/2005	Steffen Bundschuh	016906-0436	9458
22428	7590	01/03/2008	EXAMINER	
FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP			DUFF, DOUGLAS J	
SUITE 500			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3000 K STREET NW			3748	
WASHINGTON, DC 20007				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
01/03/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

S

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/552,734	BUND SCHUH ET AL.
	Examiner Douglas J. Duff	Art Unit 3748

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 19 October 2007 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

This Office Action is in response to Applicants' amendments filed 10/19/07.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bentz et al. (US 3752132). Regarding claim 1, Bentz et al. discloses a circuit arrangement with a low temperature circuit (39c, 25c) for the cooling of charging air in a motor vehicle comprising a turbocharger (31c) and an engine cooling circuit (21c, 11c) for cooling an engine (13c), wherein the low temperature circuit can be temporarily coupled (41c) to the engine cooling circuit in such a way that coolant can pass from one circuit to another and back (43c, 44c, Fig. 4).

3. Regarding claims 2-5, 9 and 10, Bentz et al. discloses the circuit of claim 1 with a feedline (47c) between the engine cooling circuit (11c) and the low temperature circuit (25a) leading from the engine thermostat (44c) in the engine cooling circuit downstream of the engine, to a mixed thermostat (43c) integrated in the low temperature circuit (25c, Fig. 4), the feedline being between the engine thermostat (44c) and the mixed thermostat (43c) and the mixed thermostat being an expansion thermostat (col. 3, lines 8-10).

4. Regarding claims 6-8 and 11-20, Bentz et al. discloses the circuit of claims 1-5 where during warm-up of the engine (13c) and during the warm state of the engine, coolant flows out of the engine cooling circuit (21c, 11c) into the low temperature circuit (25a, through 47c), where warm coolant from the engine (13c) is used for heating the charging air in the charging air/coolant cooler (29c, Fig. 4).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 10/19/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding the argument that Bentz et al. fails to disclose all of the limitations of the independent claim 1, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. The claimed phrase "**can** be temporarily coupled to the engine cooling circuit in such a way that coolant **can** pass from one circuit into the other circuit" is being considered as optional language, or in the alternative, as functional language. Language that suggests or makes optional but does not require steps to be performed or does not limit a claim to a particular structure does not limit the scope of a claim or claim limitation.

See MPEP 2106 II C.

6. Alternatively, if a reference is presently capable of performing the function as claimed in the invention, the claim is anticipated. See MPEP 2173.05(g). The feedline (47c) of Bentz et al. is clearly capable of performing the function of allowing coolant to pass from one circuit (25c) into the other circuit (11c). See col. 3, lines 20-24.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas J. Duff whose telephone number is (571) 272-3459. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7 AM - 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas Denion can be reached on (571) 272-4859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number:
10/552,734
Art Unit: 3748

Page 5

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Douglas J. Duff

Douglas J. Duff 12/30/07

Thomas Denion
THOMAS DENION
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700